

Appleby Archaeology

Notes of the Committee Meeting of the Appleby Archaeology Group held on Thursday November 23rd 2017 at Northgate, Milburn.

Present

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|-----------------|-----------|
| Martin Joyce | Chairman |
| Mike Godfrey | Treasurer |
| Phyl Rouston | |
| Richard Stevens | Secretary |

Visitors

Barbara Blenkinship, Adrian Waite

Apologies

Trish Shaw, Mick Yates, Martin Railton

Notes of the last meeting

The notes of the previous meeting were agreed to be a correct record.

1/11/17 Matters arising.

- 1/10/17 Paypal and Membership renewals. Martin J explained that the Paypal facility was now operational from the AppArch web page link and that he was satisfied that the system was all working well. Phyl wanted to know if members without a Paypal account could use the facility and Martin said that they would be able to do so by using a debit or credit card. Paypal account holders would pay via their account as they do for other purchases. Sending cheques in the post as before was still an alternative but it was expected that this would not be the case for much longer as the banks were still trying to discontinue their use. Martin asked for volunteers at the meeting to try out the new system live, Barbara, Adrian and Richard agreed to do so. If successful, the system will go live for the membership with the winter newsletter mailing. **(Martin J)**
- 4/12/16 Appleby HAZ. Martin R had suggested that Martin J contact Adrian Bamford to get the latest on the project. Martin J said that the Project manager had made a general outline application to HLF, which said nothing specific although a mention of a Phase II of Dig Appleby had been included. However, real work was about to commence on appraisal of listed buildings, the keep of Appleby Castle and flood resilience for the heritage area. Martin R had explained that any access to the castle by AppArch to work on the Castle Studies Trust project on Caesar's Tower would depend on the success of the HLF application.
- 7/10/17 AGM and Member's evening. Martin said that Heather had now resigned as membership secretary and that pro-tem, he would take on the task. Mike will stand down as Treasurer at the AGM and Carol will also resign. Richard said that without volunteers from the membership, the group would be in real danger of folding. It was unreasonable to expect long standing committee members to continue to take up the slack and this should be made absolutely clear at the AGM. The celebratory cake for the 20th anniversary was in progress and Phyl agreed to visit the Co-op to enquire about buying wine on sale or return. Trish had agreed to arrange glasses and it was thought that 40 would be sufficient. Main speaker for the

evening would be Martin R with a roundup of the Dig Appleby project and Martin J said that other members had volunteered short talks on various subjects. **(Martin J, Phyl, Trish)**

2/11/17 Membership

Martin J reported that the group currently has 69 members in total, 41 single and 14 joint. One new member, a student, had recently joined.

3/11/17 Treasurer's Report

Mike presented the accounts to date, £610 with only December supper room and speaker to pay before the year end. Towergate third party insurance had been renewed at a cost of £190, a few pounds more than for 2017. A reasonable year end balance at the bank of around £550 can be expected.

4/11/17 Research

Martin R had not reported anything to the meeting, since there was neither ongoing nor planned activity at present.

Martin J had received an email from the Westmorland Dales Project, an umbrella group formed by the Friends of the Lake District, the Yorkshire Dales National Park and various other parties following the inclusion of a sizeable area of Eden District into the park. The intent of the project is not too clear at present but presumably HLF funding will be involved and as a local interest group, we should be kept informed. Martin J will therefore attend an inaugural meeting on 28 November. **(Martin J)**

5/31117 Correspondence

Nothing significant to report.

6/11/17 Programme

Various ideas were discussed with a view to following up at the March committee meeting. Harry had suggested a talk by someone from Dumfries Museum on the Galloway Hoard. Barbara suggested that Wardell-Armstrong's work on a turbine cable route in Suffolk would be interesting in that much of the archaeology was of periods almost unknown in Cumbria. Richard tabled a miscellaneous list of ideas which had built up over the years and said he would work on that during the winter. Ideas for summer visits included Sarah Losh's church at Wreay, near Carlisle, & Stanwick fort - following up on the April talk and possibly including a visit to Richmond. **(All)**

7/11/17 AV Equipment: Projector replacement

Martin J explained that the video projector was about to fail and that a new one was needed very soon. Richard had already looked at funding possibilities and both Eden District Council and CCC Neighbourhood Forum would be prepared to assist, although in neither case would any money be available quickly. Although Martin said that he was reluctant to borrow a projector in the interim, it would appear to be the only solution and that Harry had kindly agreed to bring his own projector to the remaining meetings this winter.

Richard will approach EDC, as it seems likely that they have the biggest pot available. He explained that he would need two quotes and that the minimum grant would be for £500, so any replacement would need to be for more than that sum. Martin J said if we purchased a short throw projector, the group could probably dispense with the screen and use a piece of Tyvek pinned to the pegboard in the supper room instead, easing the ongoing transportation problem. Barbara suggested that this might need to be tried out as her experience with such a solution was not very successful. **(Martin J, Richard)**

8/11/17 AOB

Richard said that he had received an informal approach from Chris Wilson regarding closer collaboration between AppArch and the Appleby in Westmorland Society. Phyl said that Carl Bendelow had suggested something similar two years ago but that the aims of the two societies were very different and nothing further was done with the idea. The A in W was concerned largely with the civic history of the town from the end of the 18th century onwards, whereas AppArch is interested in the archaeology of the town as well as its environs in all historical periods. The meeting did acknowledge that the A in W had a very respectable archive collection.

It was agreed that Martin J, as chairman, should talk informally to Chris but that this was not expected to result in any advances on the current situation. **(Martin J)**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm

Time and date of next meeting: 7.30pm Thursday 15th or 22nd February at the White House, Brampton or White House Appleby, to be determined.